



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

L-Area Burning/Rubble Pit, Gas Cylinder Disposal Facility and L-Area Rubble Pile Operable Unit Fact Sheet Available

The United States Department of Energy, United States Environmental Protection Agency, and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control announce the completion of the final design of the remedy selected for the L-Area Burning/Rubble Pit (LBRP), Gas Cylinder Disposal Facility (GCDF) and L-Area Rubble Pile (LRP) operable unit (OU) and the availability of a Pre-construction Fact Sheet. This fact sheet provides a description of the remedy selected for the (LBRP), (GCDF) and (LRP) Operable Unit at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

The LBRP, was a shallow, unlined excavation measuring approximately 29 ft wide, 230 ft long, and 10 ft deep, and was used from 1951 to 1978 as a waste burning and burial pit. The GCDF is located adjacent the LBRP and was 14 ft wide, 27 ft long and 3 ft deep trench, used in the mid- to late- 1970's for the venting and disposal of gas cylinders. In 1997, a removal action was implemented with the primary objective of removing all principal threat waste (i.e. batteries) from the pit and GCDF. Subsequent, soil samples from the base of the excavation confirmed that no contamination remained at the LBRP and GCDF. Both areas were back filled to grade with clean soil.

The LRP is approximately 500 ft long and 120 ft wide, consisting of rubble and soil piles randomly scattered throughout the area. It is not known when disposal activities at the unit occurred or what type and volume of waste were disposed. A removal action in 1997 removed and disposed of approximately 250 cubic yards of non-hazardous and hazardous waste from the site. However, confirmatory sampling of the area showed that although the action had removed the principal threat waste, con-

taminants still remained above remedial goals.

The remedial action selected in the Record of Decision will be applied to the LBRP, GCDF and LRP Operable Unit. The remedial actions consist of:

- 1.) for the LBRP source unit - No further action.
- 2.) for the GCDF source unit – No further action.
- 3.) for the LRP source unit – Removal and disposal of contaminated soils/debris. After removal, institutional controls including long term site maintenance will be implemented
- 4.) for groundwater – A Groundwater Mixing Zone/ Monitored Natural Attenuation (GMZ/MNA) with institutional controls will be implemented as long as groundwater concentrations exceed regulatory standards.

This remedy will be the final remedy for this Operable Unit. There will be no health hazards posed to off-site communities as a result of this remedial action.

The Pre-construction Fact Sheet for the SRS LBRP, GCDF and LRP Operable Unit are available at the following locations: DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina (USC)-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at USC in Columbia, SC; Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

For additional information, please contact Jim Moore at 1-800-249-8155 or e-mail: jim02.moore@srs.gov

Fact Sheet Available for A-Area Burning/Rubble Pit, Gas Cylinder Facility and L-Area Rubble Pile

This Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) is being issued by the United States Department of Energy (USDOE), the lead agency for the Savannah River Site, with concurrence by the United States Environmental Protection Agency-Region IV (US-EPA) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) to announce changes in the remedial decision selected for the A-Area Burning/Rubble Pits (731-A/1A) and Rubble Pit (731-2A) (ABRP). The waste unit is located in the northwest portion of the Savannah River Site (SRS), in Aiken, South Carolina.

The remedy selected in the ABRP Interim Record of Decision (IROD) for the surface soils is the installation of a one-foot thick cover over Pit 731-2A with institutional controls. The remedy selected for the uppermost groundwater aquifer is an air sparging and soil vapor extraction (SVE) system. The purpose of this ESD is to document a Post-IROD change to the original selected remedy. The significant difference from the original remedy is to operate four new SVE wells, equipped with microblowers, in the "trench/pit" area to remediate vadose zone contamination which has been determined to be at levels which would leach to groundwater above maximum concentration limits (MCLs). This modification will have no adverse impact on human health or the environment.

The SRS is required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) to publish an ESD whenever there is a significant change to a component of the remedy identified in the Record of Decision (ROD).

The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan requires the lead agency to provide an explanation of the differences and to make the information available to the public in the Administrative Record and information repository.

This ESD is available for public review during normal business hours at the following information repositories:

- DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the Explanation of Significant Difference are available at the following:

- Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

The Explanation of Significant Difference is also available on the Internet in the SRS Home Page (<http://www.srs.gov>), under "Happening Now," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srs-home.htm>), and on the SRS Environmental Restoration Home Page, under "Public Involvement," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srenviro/erd/pub/pubinv.html>).

Any comments or questions may be directed to:

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Programmatic Environmental Assessment Issued by Oak Ridge

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge has completed a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) (DOE/EA-1393) to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the implementation of a long-term, comprehensive management program for potentially reusable low enriched uranium, normal uranium, and depleted uranium. DOE's inventories of these excess materials reside at many sites across the nation, with only a few of these sites having long-term ongoing uranium missions. In the PEA, DOE evaluated various options for interim centralized storage and interim consolidated storage at six DOE locations and two commercial sites, as well as a No Action alternative. Based on this analysis, it was determined that implementing a comprehensive management program is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act. Therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required, and DOE has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). A copy of the PEA and FONSI is available by request at nepa@srs.gov (1-800-881-7292) or at the: DOE Savannah River Operations Office Public Reading Room, 471 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801, Phone (803) 641-3320.

**Don't miss the next
SRS
Citizens Advisory Board Meeting
March 24-25, 2003
Augusta Sheraton Hotel
2651 Perimeter Parkway
Augusta, GA**

NEPA Announcement

The Savannah River Site (SRS) is committed to providing copies of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents including environmental impact statements (EISs) and environmental assessments (EAs) to all interested stakeholders. By being added to our mailing list, you will be notified of their availability and receive any SRS NEPA document that is of interest to you.

If you wish to be added to the mailing list for NEPA documents, please contact:

Mr. Andrew R. Grainger,
NEPA Compliance Officer
800-881-7292
or e-mail: nepa@srs.gov.

SRS Environmental Bulletin Available OnLine

Did you know that the SRS Environmental Bulletin is available to you electronically in a PDF format? In an effort to allow stakeholders to receive more timely information about environmental activities, we are offering this alternative to paper copies. While we are constantly looking for ways to improve our services, we will happily continue to mail copies to those individuals who do not wish to take advantage of this offer.

To receive your copy of the SRS Environmental Bulletin electronically, please provide your name, current address, phone number and your e-mail address by leaving a message on 800-881-7292 or send us an email at nepa@srs.gov.

If you have any questions, call the Public Involvement Office at 800-249-8155.

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The SRS Environmental Bulletin

For more information on this or other
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